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ABSTRACT

The courts have come to play an increasingly important role in educational policy making and the administrative management of our public schools. This is especially apparent in the context of school discipline where numerous and varied controversies have been translated into legal disputes over the past three decades, many of which have ultimately reached the U.S. Supreme Court before being resolved. In recognition of this general trend, and in light of the number and complexity of contemporary school discipline controversies, this monograph covers policy and matters of practical importance. Section 1 (comprised of six chapters) introduces the reader to the cases and controversies of school discipline, discusses discipline of special education students, and details student attendance and academic sanctions. Implications and applications of school law are covered in the second section (containing four chapters), including effective discipline policies and programs and considerations in developing local policies and procedures for student searches. The third section, the final two chapters, offers diverse perspectives and alternative policy futures. Section 4 contains an education law bibliography (130 references), Supreme Court case summaries, Constitutional and statutory references, and a list of the participants and faculty of the 1989 Education Law Institute. (KM)

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